

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please CANCEL claims 1-9, 12 and 13 without prejudice to or disclaimer of the recited subject matter.

Please AMEND claims 10 and 11, as follows. Please note that all claims currently pending in this application are reproduced below for the Examiner's convenience.

1-9. (Canceled)

10. (Currently Amended) A linear motor ~~according to Claim 7~~, comprising:

a coil;

a plurality of first magnet groups having polar directions disposed in periodically different directions; and

a plurality of second magnet groups having polar directions disposed in periodically different directions;

wherein, in a set including a predetermined magnet of said first magnet groups and a magnet of said second magnet groups, corresponding to the predetermined magnet, magnetization directions of the set of magnets have mutually different tilts with respect to the central axis of said coil, and

wherein said coil includes a first coil effective to produce a Lorentz's force between ~~[[it]]~~ said first coil and said first magnet groups, and a second coil effective to produce a Lorentz's force between ~~[[it]]~~ said second coil and said second magnet groups.

11. (Currently Amended) A linear motor according to ~~Claim~~ claim 10, further comprising a first yoke provided at a side of said first coil remote from said first magnet groups, and a second yoke provided at a side of said second coil remote from said second magnet groups.

12. (Canceled)

13. (Canceled)